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BOOK REVIEWS

METHODS AND PRINCIPLES

The Antiquity of Man. ARTHUR KEITH, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., Hunterian Professor, Royal College of Surgeons of England. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1915. Pp. xx, 519, 189 illustrations.

On account of the war this work did not appear until one year after the proofs were corrected. In it the problem of man's antiquity is approached from the point of view of the anatomist.

Dr. Keith's initial chapter deals with the Neolithic race that built certain megalithic monuments of Kent. This race is long-headed and short of stature, not very different from a modern group of English people of the industrial class. The most pronounced differences are to be seen in the teeth and the lower limbs. This type characterizes the later Neolithic period in England, and is found in the long barrows. It is a variant of the earliest Neolithic race in England represented by the Trent or Muskham skull, called by Huxley the "river-bed type." It is also found in Spain, France, Switzerland, North Germany, and Scandinavia; likewise in Egypt of the Sixth Dynasty, which is contemporaneous with the Neolithic of England.

According to the author, the early Neolithic period corresponds to the period of the submerged forests. At that time the estuary of the Thames was far out in the North Sea, just west of the Dogger Bank. Since then there has been a filling of the valley due to submergence. At Tilbury below London in 1883 the old Neolithic valley bottom was met with at a depth of 32 feet below the level of the marsh. Some three feet deeper a human skeleton was found. It is supposed to represent the people of the submerged-forest area, and to have been deposited there anywhere from seven to twelve thousand years ago. The Tilbury skull is also of the river-bed type.

From the river-bed type the author passes to a consideration of the later Paleolithic population of Europe, as represented by the remains from Engis, Crô-Magnon, Grotte des Enfants, Brünn, and Combe-Capelle. In his opinion the two Grimaldi individuals from the Grotte des Enfants belong to an aberrant Crô-Magnon form, rather than to a different race. Both are of Aurignacian age. During the later Paleolithic period Europe

was inhabited by tall and rather distinct races having long, narrow heads, and brains that were capable of conceiving and appreciating works of genuine artistic merit.

Going back a step farther, we come to the Mousterian epoch, that of the Neanderthal race, which the author synchronizes with the 50-foot terrace of the Thames valley (known on the Continent as the low terrace). *Homo neandertalensis* was a type quite distinct from the men of Crô-Magnon and Combe-Capelle. Its skeletal remains have been found from Gibraltar in the south to the Neander valley in the north, and from the Island of Jersey to Krapina in Croatia.

Of pre-Mousterian races the author has much to say. Traces of them are found in the 100-foot terrace of the lower Thames valley. The skull found by Mr. W. M. Newton at Dartford is supposed to be of Acheulian age; while the skeleton found in the gravel pit at Galley hill is assigned to the still more remote Chellean epoch. The skeleton recently found under a layer of chalky boulder clay at Ipswich is accepted as authentic, and consequently referred to a pre-Chellean stage, although anatomically it differs little from a Neolithic or even a modern skeleton. That it should be wholly different in type and at the same time be nearly as old as *Homo heidelbergensis* interposes in the mind of Dr. Keith no serious difficulties. Future discoveries may prove him to be right. The more conservative thinkers, however, would not endeavor to anticipate the discoveries.

Much space is rightly reserved for a consideration of the important find recently made at Piltdown Common, Sussex. As a "student of the human body," Dr. Keith is of the opinion that future discoveries will prove that the remains of *Eoanthropus dawsoni* represent the first trace yet found of a Pliocene form of Man, and also that Dr. Smith Woodward is justified in creating for it a new genus of the family Hominidae. In other words, he believes the canine tooth, lower jaw, and skull all belong to the same genus; thus differing from Dr. Gerrit S. Miller of the United States National Museum, who would refer the canine tooth and lower jaw to a fossil chimpanzee, *Pan vetus*, sp. nov.

The author's conclusions are given a final apt and brief expression in the form of a combined anthropoid and human genealogical tree, which is put forth as a working hypothesis. Much of his personality has gone into the pages of this interesting book, which should be widely read.

GEORGE GRANT MACCUDY